

REMARKS

This Amendment and Remarks respond to that Office Action dated August 29, 2005, in which all of the pending claims were determined to be allowable, except claims 108, 109 and 112-115.

Notice Under MPEP 2001.06(b) – Related Co-Pending U.S. Applications

Applicant advises the Examiner of the below-listed co-pending patent applications of the Applicant. Applicant does not waive the confidential nature (if unpublished) of the below-listed patent applications.

10/385,976, Filed 3/11/2003

10/922,127, Filed 8/18/2004

10/996,695, Filed 11/23/2004

11/236,765, Filed 09/27/05

11/230,326, Filed 9/19/05

Terminal Disclaimers Attached

Without admitting any incidence of double patenting, Terminal Disclaimers are provided related to U.S. Patent Nos. 6,279,550 and 6,951,211 and U.S. Patent Application No. 10/996,695 in order to assist with early allowance of the present claims. The only pending application over which Applicant is disclaiming is application no. 10/996,695, since it is the only application which is almost ready to issue.

Regarding the Office Action

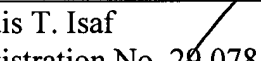
Applicant does not concede to and does traverse the rejections and reasons for rejections of claims 108, 109 and 112-115. Nonetheless, in order to receive expedited allowance, claims 108, 109 and 112-115 are hereby canceled. Objected to claim 110 is re-written in independent form, and claim 111 depends therefrom and introduces additional patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and courteously requests the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all now pending claims 42-50, 52-57, 59, 60, 74, and 89-107, 110, and 111. The undersigned welcomes and requests a telephone call from the Examiner in the event there are any remaining issues that can be resolved by such a call.

Respectfully submitted,

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